

Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR, SEDU, OEXC, CH

SUBJECT: DUKE UNIVERSITY GROUP VISIT TO PRC

REF: STATE 237988

SUMMARY: DUKE UNIVERSITY GROUP LED BY MRS. TERRY SANFORD WAS TOLD BY MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND OTHER PRC OFFICIALS THAT REGULAR ACADEMIC EXCHANGES WOULD BECOME POSSIBLE ONLY AFTER FULL NORMALIZATION OF US-PRC RELATIONS; BUT RECEIVED SOME ENCOURAGEMENT AS TO INDIVIDUAL INFORMAL EXCHANGES. LECTURES GROUP RECEIVED ON SOVIET DANGER INCLUDED MILD REBUKE CONCERNING GOVERNOR SANFORD MEMBERSHIP ON COMMITTEES FOR PROMOTION OF US-USSR RELATIONS. END OF SUMMARY.

1. DUKE UNIVERSITY GROUP, WHICH HAD RECEIVED CONGEN BRIEFING PRIOR TO 2 1/2 WEEKS, TOUR OF PRC (CANTON, SHANGHAI, NAKING, SOOCHOW, PEKING) HAS, IN RETURN, BRIEFED US ON RESULTS AND IMPRESSIONS.

2. IN ABSENCE OF EX-GOVERNOR TERRY SANFORD DUE TO OTHER URGENT COMMITMENTS, GROUP WAS HEADED BY MRS. SANFORD, DR. K. PYE, DEAN OF LAW SCHOOL AND DR. ANLYAN, VICE PRESIDENT FOR MEDICAL AFFAIRS.

3. A HIGHLIGHT OF TRIP WAS CALL ON PRC MINISTER OF

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EDUCATION CHOU JUNG-HSIN, WHICH NCNA OF NOVEMBER 7 DESCRIBED

AS "FRIENDLY CONVERSATION".

4. CHOU BEGAN WITH COMPREHENSIVE OUTLINE OF PRC EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVMENTS AND POLICIES, THEN GAVE LENGTHLY LECTURE ON "DANGEROUS ILLUSION OF DETENTE", WITH EMPHASIS ON WORLD-WIDE AGGRESSIVE POSTURE OF SOVIETS PRINCIPALLY DIRECTED AGAINST WESTERN EUROPE AND US.

5. ASKED ABOUT POSSIBILITIES FOR ESTABLISHING REGULAR ACADEMIC EXCHANGES BETWEEN DUKE AND PRC INSTITUTIONS CHOU RESPONDED THAT THIS MUST AWAIT FULL NORMALIZATION OF RELATION, AND HE ENUMERATED THREE STEPS USG WOULD HAVE TO TAKE(BREAK IN US-ROC RELATIONS, TERMINATION OF DEFENSE TREATY, WITHDRAWL OF US TROOPS). UNFORTUNATELY--CHOU CLAIMED--HE SAW NO SIGN OF PROGRESS IN THIS AREA; INSTEAD ROC " INFLUENCE IN US APPEARS TO BE GROWING".

6. SEVERAL ADDITIONAL INITIATIVES ON EXCHANGES ISSUE, WITH INDIVIDUAL PRC INSTITUTIONS, WERE SIMILARLY REBUFFED, FOR EXAMPLE, DR PYE. PRSIDENT-ELECT OF ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN LAW CHOOOLS--MADE NO PROGRESS WITH SUGGESTIONS OR EXCHANGES OF LAW SCHOOL PROFFORRORS AND LAWYERS.

7. SOLE EXCEPTION WAS PROPOSAL BY DR. TERRY JOHNSON WELL-KNOWN AUTHORITY ON RICE DISEASES--AN AREA OF MAJOR INTREST TO PRC. PEKING INSTITUTE OF MICRO-BIOLOGY REPORTEDLY AGREED TO EXCHANGE OF COLOR SLIDES, FUNGI SPECIMENS, AND LITERATURE, AND DR. JOHNSON RECIEVED CLEAR IMPRESSION THAT HIS APPLICATION TO SPEND TWO OR THREE MTNTHS AT INSTITUTE--PERHAPS IN SUMMER 1976-- WOULD BE APPROVED.

8. THEMES OF "LACK OF PROGRESS" IN US-PRC RELATIONS AND DANGERS OF DETENTE WERE ALSO EMPHASIZED TO GROUP BY YUEH TAI-HENG, WHO DESCRIBED HIMSELF AS DEPUTY HEAD OF CHINA TRAVEL SERVICE AND FORMER PRC COUNSUL GENERAL IN BOMBAY (OUR RECORDS SHOW YUEH AS "LEADING MEMBER" OF CHINA TRAVEL SERVICE WHO FREQUENTLY SERVES AS HOST TO SENIOR-LEVEL AMERICAN VISITORS).

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9. YUEH CLAIMED THAT USG ACTIONS HAD "FALLEN SHORT" OF "IMPLIED COMMITMENTS" OF SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE, AND THAT ROC INFLUENCE IN US "IS ENORMOUS".

10. HE EXPRESSED REGRET THAT GOVERNOR SANFORD HAD NOT FOUND IT POSSIBLE TO TAKE PART IN PRC VISIT, AND IN THIS CONNECTION, REFERRED--IN MILDLY CRITICAL MANNER--TO GOVERNOR'S TRAVEL TO USSR IN RECENT PAST, AND "HIS MEMBER-

SHIP IN COMMITTEES FOR SOVIET-AMERICAN COOPERATION". YUEH
EXPRESSED HOPE THAT GROUP WOULD TRANSMIT TO GOVERNOR PRC
VIEWS ON DANGER US FACES FROM SOVIETS.

11. GROUP RECIVED GOOD IMPRESSIONS OF QUALITY OF PRC
UNDERGRADUATE SCHOOLS GENERALLY, AND OF CAPABILITIES OF
MEDICAL AND BIOLOGICAL SPECIALISTS WHITH WHOM THEY MET.

12. COMPREHENSIVE REPORT ON GROUP'S TOUR WILL BE PREPARED
AFTER RETURN TO DURHAM.
CROSS

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